1. (currently amended) A patient information system comprising:

a computer server having a patient information forum for at least one patient, and each said patient information forum containing information regarding an individual patient;

a publicly accessible computer output device networked to said computer server;

a publicly accessible computer input device networked to said computer server; ~~and~~

an at least partially patient controlled security subsystem operably positioned between said patient information forum and said input device, and permitting access to said patient information forum free of identity verification by said computer server to at least one person selected by said individual patient; and

said patient information forum including means for exchanging messages, questions and answers among said patient, concerned third party family members and friends of said patient, caregivers of said patient and treatment center administrators without real time interaction.

2. (original) The patient information system of claim 1 wherein said patient information forum is subdivided into a plurality of levels, and a different portion of said patient information forum being available at different ones of said plurality of levels; and

said security subsystem being operable to limit access to said patient information forum to a predetermined group of persons, and limit access to different ones of said levels to subsets of said predetermined group of persons.

3. (cancelled)

4. (original) The patient information system of claim 1 wherein a particular patient has an ailment; and

said patient information forum for said particular patient includes a link to a database having information regarding said ailment.

5. (cancelled)

6. (original) The patient information system of claim 1 wherein said computer server is an Internet server; and

said patient information system has an Internet address.

7. (original) The patient information system of claim 1 wherein said security subsystem includes an assignment of passwords to a predetermined group of persons that are approved for access to said patient information forum of a particular patient.

8. (currently amended) A method of exchanging information regarding a patient comprising the steps of:

establishing a patient information forum for a particular patient on a computer server;

networking said computer server into a publicly accessible computer network;

limiting access to said patient information forum to a predetermined group of persons; and

enabling the particular patient to control at least a portion of the individuals that are included in said predetermined group of persons, and said portion accessing said patient information forum free of identity verification by the computer server

said patient information forum including means for exchanging messages, questions and answers among said patient and said predetermined group of persons without real time interaction, and said predetermined group of persons includes concerned third party family members and friends of said patient, caregivers of said patient and treatment center administrators.

9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein said establishing step includes a step of dividing said patient information forum into a plurality of levels; and

said limiting access step includes a step of limiting subsets of said predetermined group of persons to different ones of said levels.

10. (original) The method of claim 8 further comprising the steps of:

identifying said predetermined group of persons; and

assigning a password to each person in said predetermined group of persons.

11. (cancelled)

12. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein said particular patient has an ailment; and

said establishing step includes a step of providing a link in said patient information forum to a database having information regarding said ailment.

13. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein said networking step includes a step of providing a patient information system with a Internet address; and

networking said computer server to at least one Internet server.

14. (original) The method of claim 8 further comprising the steps of:

networking a special needs computer to said computer server; and

providing said special needs computer with at least one of a visually impaired computer interface, a touchscreen computer interface and a voice recognition computer interface.

15. (original) The method of claim 8 further comprising a step of providing said patient information forum with a bulletin board location having new information added to said patient information forum.

16. (currently amended) A software program comprising:

means for establishing a patient information forum on a publicly accessible computer network;

means for limiting access to said patient information forum to a predetermined group of persons;

means for posting information regarding a particular patient on said patient information forum; and

means for enabling a patient for said patient information forum to control at least a portion of the individuals that are included in said predetermined group of persons, and including at least one password to said information forum that is free of an identity verification requirement; and

said patient information forum including means for exchanging messages, questions and answers among said patient and said predetermined group of persons without real time interaction, and said predetermined group of persons includes concerned third party family members and friends of said patient, caregivers of said patient and treatment center administrators.

17. (original) The software program of claim 16 wherein said means for limiting includes:

means for requesting a password; and

means for evaluating a password.

18. (cancelled)

19. (original) The software program of claim 16 wherein a particular patient has an ailment; and

means for linking said patient information forum to a database having information regarding said ailment.

20. (original) The software program of claim 17 wherein said means for limiting access includes a means for creating gradations of access dependent upon evaluation of said password.

21. (new) The system of claim 1 wherein said means for exchanging messages, questions and answers includes audio recordings made by one of said patient, said concerned third parties, said caregivers and said administrators.

22. (new) The system of claim 1 including means for producing an audit trail regarding incidents in which said patient information forum was accessed.

23. (new) The system of claim 22 including means for generating a list of messages, questions and answers that includes information regarding a date, time and originating person of the respective message, question and answer.